

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ2003/000292

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTERInt. Cl. ⁷: A23J 1/20, A01J 7/00, A01J 5/00, A01J 11/00, A23C 7/00.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

SEE ABOVE

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SEE BELOW

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPIDS, MEDLINE, AGRICOLA (milk, separate, automatic)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	NZ 280724 (DEC International NZ Limited) 23.12.1996 (Whole document)	1-20
Y	WO 1996/011568 (Maasland NV et al) 25.04.96 (Whole document)	1-8, 16-20
Y	WO 1996/ 001040 (Maasland NV et al) 18.01.96 (Whole document)	1-8, 16-20



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 March 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

- 1 APR 2004

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 3,946,113 (Seiberling, DA) 23.03.76 (Abstract; Col 4, lines 8-12; Claims)	1-8, 16-20
Y	US 4,075,196 (Badertscher, E et al) 21.02.78 (Abstract; Examples)	1-8, 16-20
Y	US 4,018,752 (Buhler, M, et al) 19.04.77 (Whole document)	1-8, 16-20
Y	WO 1994/008450 (United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority) 28.04.1994	1-8, 16-20
Y	EP 1,138,192 (DeLaval Holding AB) 04.10.2001	1-8, 16-20

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/NZ2003/000292

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report				Patent Family Member			
WO	9611568	EP	0741512	NL	9401681	US	5865138
WO	9601040	CA	2170046	EP	0716566	EP	1120033
		EP	1120034	NL	9401113	NZ	288747
		US	5784994	US	6009833		
US	3946113	CA	966665	DE	2341863	GB	1414929
		US	3829584				
US	4075196	AR	211689	AU	81880/75	CA	1058952
		CH	587021	DE	2431228	ES	436337
		FR	2273481	GB	1479822	JP	51019164
		NL	7505649	ZA	7502614		
US	4018752	AR	210843	AU	71585/74	BE	817248
		CA	1045627	CH	571317	CH	578309
		DE	2412118	DE	2431227	FR	2239208
		GB	1477018	IN	139652	NL	7410186
		PH	11995	SU	697037	US	4125527
		ZA	7404679				
NZ	280724						
WO	9408450	AU	26907/92	EP	0616492	GB	2276067
		GB	2276069	US	5664521		
EP	1138192	AU	52187/01	US	2003154924	WO	0174147
END OF ANNEX							